



ACCREDITATION POLICY

Scope

This policy applies to the accreditation of all prevocational trainee medical officer (TMO) posts within the South Australian health system.

Rationale

The purpose of this policy is to:

- > Ensure a consistent approach to accreditation across South Australia
- > Ensure accreditation processes are clearly communicated, transparent and open
- > Ensure there is continuous improvement to TMO education and training

Context

The South Australian Medical Education and Training (SA MET) Health Advisory Council (the Advisory Council) accredits TMO posts within South Australia assuming clinicians, hospitals and their staff are committed to teaching and training and that TMOs are committed to learning. The accreditation process is based on a framework for developing goals that continue to develop a quality TMO education system in South Australia.

Overview of Accreditation

The accreditation process sets out to establish and monitor standards for TMOs and to assist in the attainment of a universally high standard of general training.

Through the accreditation process, facilities are evaluated by a visit team using clearly defined and established accreditation standards. Accreditation is essential in ensuring that interns are able to meet the requirements for general registration and that an optimal environment exists for the supervision and training of all prevocational TMOs in South Australia.

Accreditation in South Australia

The South Australian Board of the Medical Board of Australia (SA MBA) has authorised the Advisory Council to undertake the accreditation of all intern training positions in South Australia. The Advisory Council also accredits other prevocational TMO positions for the Minister for Health.

The Advisory Council receives recommendations regarding accreditation of TMO posts from the Accreditation Committee. The Accreditation Committee is responsible for an effective accreditation process that takes into account jurisdictional requirements, national program developments and the needs of TMOs in training.

The Advisory Council and Accreditation Committee receive operational support from the SA MET Unit. The SA MET Unit is committed to supporting facilities and units in preparing for accreditation and in meeting provisos following visits. Accreditation is a collaborative process between the SA MET Unit and Local Health Networks ensuring there is ongoing improvement to prevocational TMO education and training.

Standards

The SA MET Health Advisory Council Accreditation Standards provide the framework against which TMO education and training is assessed.

The Standards:

- > assist Local Health Networks (LHN), facilities, units, individual supervisors and TMOs to evaluate their own progress towards improved education and training. This evaluation should be ongoing and integrated with education and training governance and delivery.
- > allow accreditation teams visiting facilities, units and positions to benchmark the establishment and performance against expectations to achieve accreditation.
- > act as a reference for TMOs to ensure they are receiving education and training of an appropriate quality as they review their own progress informally and through structures such as the Advisory Council's Doctors in Training Committee and the Australian Medical Association Doctors in Training forum.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The SA MET Unit will periodically review the effectiveness of the Accreditation Policy and supporting accreditation policies, procedures and guidelines.

Relevant Legislation

- > Health Care Act 2008
- > Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (SA) Act 2010

Relevant SA MET Policies and Guidelines

- > Internal Review Policy and Procedure
- > New Unit Accreditation Process
- > Process for Change of Circumstance

Related Documents

- > Medical Board of Australia Registration Standard for granting general registration
- > Australian Medical Council Intern training – National standards for programs
- > Australian Medical Council Intern training – Guidelines for terms

Document history

Date effective	Author/Editor	Approved by	Version	Change Reference
21 August 2013	Project Officer, Accreditation	SA MET Health Advisory Council	2.2	Original document
4 February 2015	Project Officer, Accreditation	Senior Project Officer, Accreditation	v3.0	Minor updates
October 2018	Project Officer, Education & Accreditation	Manager, Education & Accreditation	V3.1	Minor updates